

( ) Required  
(X) Local  
( ) Notice

## INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

Interscholastic athletics for students are an integral and desirable part of the district's secondary school educational program. Individual and team sports shall be based upon comprehensive physical education instruction and intramural activities, seeking broad participation from all eligible secondary students. Lifetime or carry over sports are to be particularly encouraged and supported. Equity in the number and kind of sports activities for students is a clear objective of the district.

Student eligibility for participation on interscholastic teams shall include:

1. authorization by the school physician;
2. written parent or guardian consent (the written consent will contain information for parents on mild traumatic brain injury (TBI) and will provide a link to the State Education Department's web page on TBI); and
3. endorsement by the Building Principal based on established rules and various league and State Education Department regulations.

Although the district will take reasonable care to protect student athletes, students may still sustain injuries. In order to most effectively ensure student safety, open communication between students, parents and coaches about the child's medical condition is critical. Coaches, and other appropriate staff, will receive guidance and training regarding recognition of injury and removal of the student athlete from play in the event of injury. Parents and/or students are expected to report injuries so that student health can be protected.

In the case of a suspected or actual head injury, a student must be removed from play immediately. In order to resume participation following injury, including head injury, the student needs to receive medical clearance. The Superintendent, in consultation with appropriate district staff, including the school physician, will develop regulations and procedures to guide the process of return to play.

In recognition of the importance of appropriately managing head injuries, the Board authorizes the creation of a Concussion Management Team (CMT). The CMT will be comprised of the athletic director, school nurses, the school physician, coaches of interscholastic teams, an athletic trainer, building principals, guidance counselors, academic teachers and outside resources as needed. The CMT is charged with overseeing compliance with state training requirements, developing guidelines for use by coaches and physical education teachers and developing information for distribution to parents and students.

### *Athletic Placement Process*

The Board permits students in grades 7 and 8 who wish to play at the junior varsity or varsity level in all sports to do so provided they can complete the entire Athletic Placement Process (APP). A description of the APP is included in the athletic handbook for student athletes and parents located on the District website.

### *Requesting a New Sport and/or Team*

Requests must be made in writing using the request form approved for this purpose or via email submission directly to the Athletic Director who is currently Mark Bubniak at [bubniakm@apcsd.org](mailto:bubniakm@apcsd.org). Any student or interested party (e.g. a parent/guardian) may make a request. Request forms are available on the District's website and in the Athletics Office at the High School. The request must include the specific boy's or girl's sport requested, the names of students who would be interested in joining the sport, if known, and a short rationale for why the District should add the sport or team. The request must contain the name of the person submitting the request and all contact information.

The Athletic Director may contact the requester and named interested students or engage in other outreach activities to determine the level of interest and ability and other insight needed to properly evaluate the request.

All requests will be reviewed by the District's Title IX Coordinator and the Athletic Director. Under the provisions of Title IX, in evaluating requests, these officials will consider whether there is a sufficient number of interested students, whether the interested students have sufficient ability in the sport, and whether there is sufficient competition in the area to sustain an interscholastic team. The evaluation will take into account the requirements of Title IX. This evaluation process will conclude no later than 60 days after the request. Any request approved by these officials will be forwarded to the District's Business Official for funding consideration. Next the Title IX Coordinator, Athletic Director, and Business Official will present the relevant information to the Superintendent, who will make a recommendation to the Board of Education. The Board of Education will make a final decision. The Athletic Director will communicate the final decision to the requester.

The District will retain all requests for new sports or levels of sports made through this procedure or otherwise, and all related information for a minimum of 10 years.

Cross-ref: 5420, Student Health Services  
5421, Concussion Management

Ref: Education Law §§ 305(42); 1709 (8-a); 3001-b  
8 NYCRR §§135.4, 136.5  
*Santa Fe Indep. Sch. Dist. v. Doe*, 530 U.S. 290 (2000) (constitutionality of student-led prayers at interscholastic athletic activities)  
*Concussion Management Support Materials*, [www.nysphsaa.org](http://www.nysphsaa.org)  
*Athletic Placement Process for Interscholastic Athletic Programs*.  
<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/sss/documents/AthleticPlacementProcess2-11-15Revised.pdf>

Adoption date:

[letterhead]

## Request for Addition of New Sport or Level of Sport

Please submit this form in person to Athletic Director Mark Bubniack or via email to [bubniackm@apscd.org](mailto:bubniackm@apscd.org).

Date of Request: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Requester: \_\_\_\_\_

Relation of Requester to District (student, parent, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Grade, if student: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information of Requester

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Sport or New Level Requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Male or female? \_\_\_\_\_

Why should the District add this sport or level?

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Name of students who are interested in this sport, if known:

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_____	_____
_____	_____
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Any other relevant information:

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